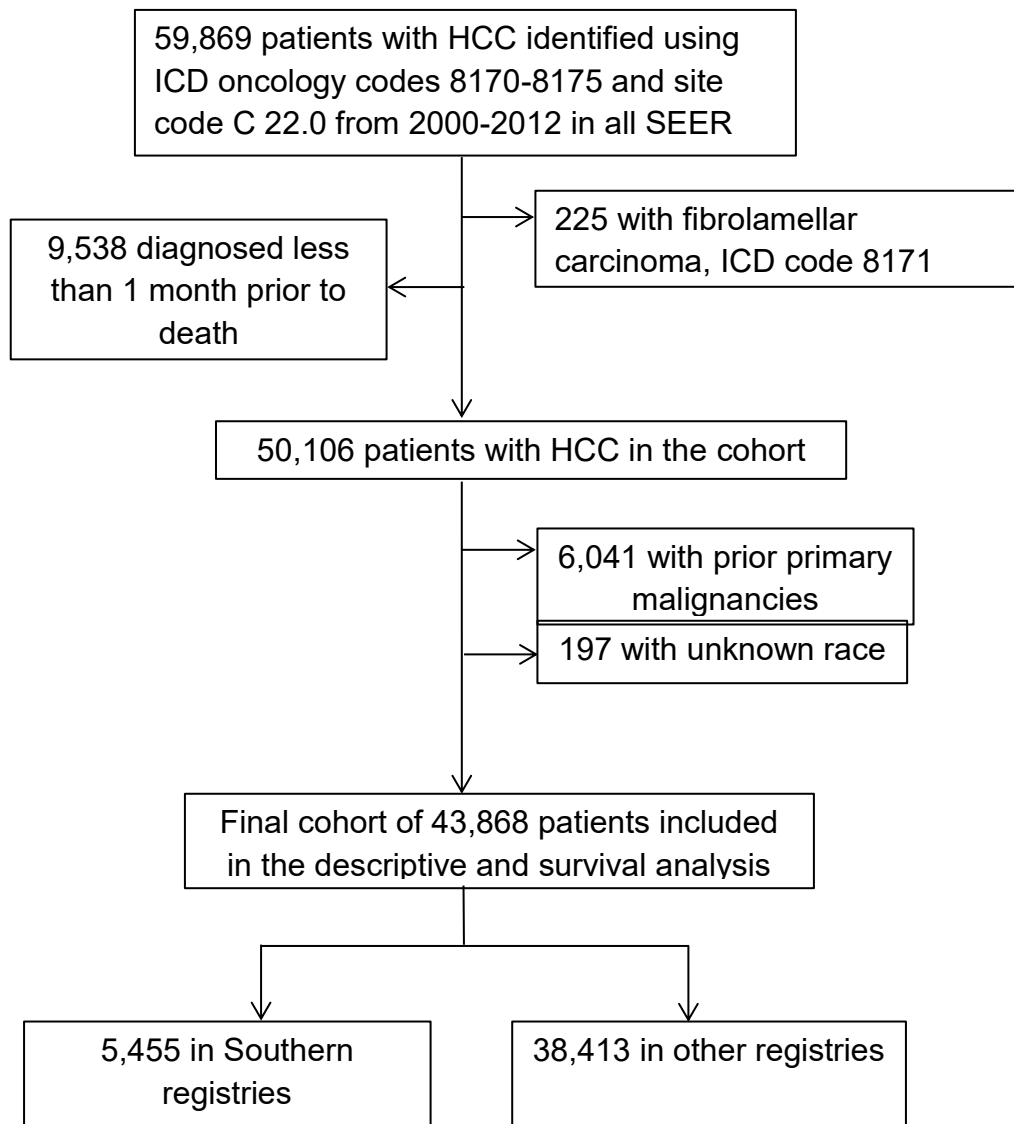


Appendix Figure 1: Inclusion criteria for our descriptive and survival analysis.



Notes: We identified 59,869 patients with HCC based on SEER site and histologic codes. We excluded patients with (1) fibrolamellar variant of HCC; (2) diagnosis within 1 month before death (included in incidence analyses, but excluded from survival analyses); (3) death certificate only or for the first time at autopsy and (4) malignant primary tumor diagnosed within 5 years before their HCC diagnosis. The final cohort included 5,455 patients in Southern and 38,413 patients in non-Southern cohorts.

HCC, hepatocellular carcinoma.